



FTW RCE  
3761

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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| <b>REQUEST<br/>FOR<br/>CONTINUED EXAMINATION<br/>(RCE)<br/>TRANSMITTAL</b><br><br>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,<br>provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application<br>filed on or after June 8, 1995.<br><br>See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA). | <b>Application Number</b>     | 09/464,582 |
|  | <b>Filing Date</b>            | 12/16/1999 |
|  | <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | LAURITZEN  |
|  | <b>Group Art Unit</b>         | 3761       |
|  | <b>Examiner Name</b>          | M. KIDWELL |
|  | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | PPC-0694   |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  
(any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Postcard

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other

3. **Fees** - The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments,  
to Deposit Account No. **10-0750**.
- i. ☒ RCE fee is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

|  |                 |                  |          |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| Name (print/type)  | JOEL A. ROTHFUS | Registration No. | 33,277   |
| Signature  |                 | Date             | 10/29/04 |
| <b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</b>  |                 |                  |          |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: 10/29/04 |                 |                  |          |
| Name (print/type)  | JOEL A. ROTHFUS | Date             | 10/29/04 |
| Signature  |                 | Date             | 10/29/04 |

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Attorney Docket: PPC-0694

Appl. No. : 09/464,582  
Applicant : Lauritzen  
Filed : December 16, 1999  
Title : ABSORBENT GARMENT HAVING A WAIST BELT ATTACHMENT  
SYSTEM  
TC/A.U. : 3761  
Examiner : M. Kidwell  
Customer No. : 000027777

Confirmation No. 7760

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October 29, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Joel A. Rothfus

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

October 29, 2004

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE ACCOMPANYING AN RCE**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 28, 2004, a Notice of Appeal having been timely filed on May 3, 2004, and the time for filing an Appeal Brief having been extended to November 3, 2004, by the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time (four months) and appropriate fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.